

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON THE 20461

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JAN 26 1994

Hugh Butler, Treasurer Libertarian National Committee 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE Washington, D.C. 20003

Identification Number: C00255695

Reference: Mid-Year Report (1/1/93-6/30/93)

Dear Mr. Butler:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-The identification of each contributor, including the person's occupation and name of employer, must be provided if the person has contributed in excess of \$200 in the aggregate during the calendar year. Please amend Schedule A supporting Line 11(a)(i) for each entry lacking a contributor's employer/occupation.

If your committee has made at least one effort Note: per solicitation, either by a written request or by an oral request documented in writing to obtain this information from the contributor, your committee may have exercised "best efforts." Under 11 CFR 104.7(b), such effort shall consist of a clear request for the information (i.e., name, mailing address, occupation, name of employer) which request informs the and contributor that the reporting of such information is required by law. If you believe that your committee satisfies the "best efforts" provision, you should provide a copy of your solicitation or an explanation of the method(s) used to obtain contribution information. regarding "best efforts" should be Clarification disclosed during each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. 11 CFR \$104.3(a)(4)(i)

-Schedule A of your report (pertinent portion(s) attached) discloses a contribution(s) from an organization(s) which is not a political committee registered with the Commission. Under 11 CFR \$102.5(b),

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organizations which are not political committees under the Act must either: 1) establish a separate account which contains only those funds permitted under the Act, or 2) demonstrate through a reasonable accounting method that the organization has received sufficient funds subject to the limitations and prohibitions in order to make the contribution.

If your committee does not finance non-federal activity, the receipt of the referenced contribution(s) may violate the limitations and prohibitions of the Act. (2 U.S.C. \$\$441a(f) and 441b) If your committee engages in both federal and non-federal activity, either through a separate non-federal account, or one account that finances activity in connection with both federal and non-federal elections, your committee may be in violation of 11 CFR \$102.5(a).

please clarify whether the contribution(s) received from the referenced organization(s) is permissible. To the extent that your committee has received funds which are not permissible, the Commission recommends that you refund the impermissible amount(s) to the donor(s) in accordance with 11 CFR \$103.3(b). Alternatively, if you choose to transfer the funds to an account not used to influence federal elections, the Commission advises that you inform the contributor in writing and provide the contributor with the option of receiving a refund. You may wish to seek a written authorization (either before or after the transfer-out) from the donor for any transfer-out to protect the donor's interests.

Please inform the Commission immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the refund or transfer-out. Should you choose to refund or transfer-out the funds, the Commission will presume the funds were impermissible, absent a statement from your committee to the contrary. Refunds and transfers-out should be disclosed on a supporting Schedule B for Line 28 or 22 of the report covering the period during which they are made.

If the contribution(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with the clarifying information.

Although the Commission may take further legal steps concerning the acceptance of prohibited contributions, prompt action by your committee in refunding or transferring-out the amounts will be taken into consideration.

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-Your report disclosed a line number total that has been reflected on the wrong line of the Detailed Summary Page. Offsets to operating expenditures should be properly disclosed on Schedule A. supporting Line 15, not 17 of the Detailed Summary Page. Please refer to the instructions contained on the forms to determine the proper categorization when preparing your next filing.

-Itemized disbursements must include a brief statement or description of why the disbursements were made. Please amend Schedule B of your report to clarify the following descriptions: fundraising. For further guidance regarding acceptable purposes of disbursements, please refer to 11 CFR \$104.3(b)(3).

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530. My local number is (202) 219-3580.

Sincerely,

Stephen Cohen Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

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